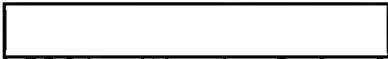


20 July 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Medical Services

STAT FROM:

  
Chief, Clinical Activities Division

SUBJECT: Medical Emergency - 17 July 1981

1. At approximately 1400 hours on 17 July 1981, the dispensary received a call that there was an ill employee in the ladies room in F Corridor on the ground floor. A nurse was dispatched at once. In fact, an employee who had come to the dispensary to report the illness accompanied her. What was not known was that there were two ill female employees, one in a ladies room in J Corridor on the ground floor and one in a ladies room in F Corridor on the ground floor. The first nurse to respond was diverted to J Corridor and provided care for an acutely ill female employee who was eventually hospitalized later that same evening.

2. The dispensary did receive several additional calls concerning the second ill patient but assumed that the situation was in the process of being resolved. Again not realizing we were dealing with two acute problems.

3. The best estimate is that approximately ten minutes elapsed until it was determined that in fact there were two patients. A nurse and two physicians responded at once to F Corridor on the ground floor. This patient had an obvious CVA. An ambulance was called for and within seven to ten minutes she was transported to Fairfax Hospital.



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